

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GUATEM 03148 240141Z

43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 MC-02 PM-04 OMB-01 ACDA-07 TRSE-00

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R 231745Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1377

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GUATEMALA 3148

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, GT

SUBJ: GUATEMALA'S REQUESTS FOR A-37B JET AND AMMUNITION

REF: STATE 62109

1. AMMUNITION: EMBASSY RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF SALE OF 5 MILLION ROUNDS OF 5.56 MM CARTRIDGES TO GUATEMAWA. USMILGP DOES NOT CONSIDER THE REQUEST EXCESSIVE, INVIEW OF FACT THAT FAMILIARIZATION TRAINING WILL BE REQUIRED BY PURCHASE OF NEW RIFLES.

2. A-37B JET: EMBASSY ALSO RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF SALE OF ONE A-37B JET PLANE FOR GUATEMALAN AIR FORCE. USG PREVIOUSLY APPROVED A FORCE LEVEL OF 12 A-37'S FOR GUATEMALA. PRESENT LEVEL IS 11, FOLLOWING JANUARY 1976 CRASH WHICH COMPLETELY DESTROYED ONE PLANE.

3. REPLACEMENT OF THE A-37B WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH OUR POLICY OF MAINTAINING OUR TRADITIONAL SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE GAF, WITHOUT INCREASING NORMAL GUATEMALAN MILITARY CAPABILITY. HOWEVER, EMBASSY REQUESTS IT BE KEPT INFORMED OF PLANNED DELIVERY DATE, IN RODER TO GIVE SEPARATE CONSIDERATION TO ISSUE OF DELIVERY TIMING AS IT MAY RELATE TO BELIZE DISPUTE.

ANDREWS

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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